(a) whether Government have announced a cut in the number of personnel working at different ranks in Indian Army;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof;

(c) whether the security and military strength of the country will be adversely affected due to this order for cut; and

(d) the criterion and circumstances behind this decision of Government?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Implementation of CAT's Order

4737. DR. C. NARAYANA REDDY: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3111 given in the Rajya Sabha on 4th September, 1996, and state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the order given by the Central Administrative Tribunal, Jabalpur on 1st December, 1999;

(b) whether the decision has been implemented; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons for not implementing the decision taken by Government as mentioned in the above referred answer and also order given by the CAT?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (c) Government are aware of the order dated 1st December 1999 of the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Jalbalpur. the position is that in the case of financial and other irregularities in the office of Garrison Engineer (West), Jabalpur, in respect of the work orders/suppl. orders pertaining to the year 1989-90 and 1990-91, to which Rajya Sabha Unstarred question No. 3111 answered on 4.9.1996 referes, a Store Keeper, Grade II was found guilty and was awarded the punishment of compulsory retirement by the concerned Chief Engineer by his order dated 24.3.1994. The Government had, on an appeal preferred by the official, set aside this order and had remitted the case for enquiry by the competent authority i.e. Engineer-in-Chief (E-in-C), as per rules. The E-in-C has since completed the inquiry as per rules and has found the official guilty and has imposed the penatly of compulsory retirement by an order passed on 14th July, 1997. The order of the CAT, Jabalpur dated 1.12.1999 refers only to the first order of compulsory retirement of 24.3.1994 and the

reply to the Rajya Sabha Unstarred Question No. 3111 mentioned above. It does not take cognizance of further orders passed in this case as per rules. An appeal has been filed in the High Court of Jabalpur against the above order of the CAT and hence this order has not been implemented so far.

Missiles Deployed by Pakistan targeting Indian Cities

†4738. SHRI SWARAJ KAUSHAL: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that Pakistan has deployed missiles by targeting Indian citites and other military areas;

(b) whether Government's attention has been drawn towards the photographs taken by american scientists of the Sargodha region of Pakistan in which missiles have been shown as deployed towards India;

(c) whether Government have taken any concrete action to face this situation; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI GEORGE FERNANDES): (a) to (d) Government are aware of Pakistan's possession of missiles, including those of Chinese and Korean origin. There are, however, no confirmed reports regarding deployment of such missiles on the border targeting Indian citities and military bases.

Appropriate monitoring continues.

Review of Military Operations in Kargil

†4739. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH:
SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Lieutenant General had conducted an investigation with regard to Kargil war;

(b) whether it is also a fact that some officers of armed forces were found inefficient during the course of this investigation; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.